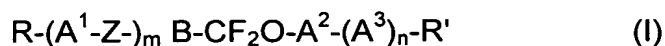


Abstract

The present invention relates to a process for the preparation of a compound of the general formula

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in which

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R is alkyl, in which one or more CH₂ groups may be replaced, independently of one another, by O, CF₂, CH=CH, CH=CF or CF=CF, with the proviso that peroxide structures O-O and formaldehyde acetals O-CH₂-O are excluded,

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A¹ is, independently of one another, 1,4-cyclohexylene, 2,5-1,3-dioxanylene, 1,3-cyclobutylene or



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A² and A³ are 1,4-phenylene, in which, independently of one another, from one to four hydrogens may be replaced by fluorine or one or two CH groups may be replaced by N,

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Z is a single bond, -CH₂-CH₂-, -CF₂-CF₂-, -CH=CH-, -CF=CF-, -CH=CF- or -CF=CH-,

B is 2,6-disubstituted naphthalene, 2,6-disubstituted 5,6,7,8-tetrahydronaphthalene or 2,6-disubstituted trans-decalin,

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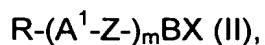
R' is R, F, OCF₃, OCF₂H, CF₃, Cl, SF₅, CN or NCS, and

m and n are, independently of one another, 0 or 1,

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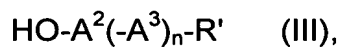
comprising the following steps:

- a) conversion of a compound of the general formula



5 in which X is halogen or =O and the other symbols are as defined in relation to the formula (I), into a carboxylic acid derivative with elimination of the group X and introduction of a C1 unit;

- 10 b) reaction of the carboxylic acid derivative with a phenol of the general formula



15 in which A^2 , A^3 , R' and n are as defined in relation to the formula (I), to give the compound of the formula (I).

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